

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of distributing a document of a user, the method comprising the steps of:

registering document distribution services of a plurality of document distribution providers;

receiving a distribution request for the document from the user;

compiling a list of distribution options for the document based on the document distribution services of the document distribution providers; and

presenting the list of distribution options for the document to the user.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of registering the document distribution services includes registering the document distribution services of the document distribution providers with a document distribution system controller, wherein the step of receiving the distribution request includes receiving the distribution request for the document from the user at the document distribution system controller, and wherein the step of compiling the list of distribution options includes compiling via the document distribution system controller the list of distribution options for the document.

3. The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of:

linking the user and the document distribution system controller via a communication network, wherein the step of receiving the distribution request includes receiving the distribution request for the document from the user via the communication network, and wherein the step of presenting the list includes presenting the list of distribution options for the document to the user via the communication network.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

receiving a distribution selection for the document from the user, the distribution selection including at least one distribution option from the list of distribution options.

5. The method of claim 4, further comprising the steps of:  
receiving a data file for the document from the user; and  
distributing the data file for the document to at least one of the document distribution providers offering the at least one distribution option.
6. The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of:  
linking the user and the document distribution providers via a communication network, wherein the step of receiving the distribution selection includes receiving the distribution selection for the document from the user via the communication network, wherein the step of receiving the data file includes receiving the data file for the document from the user via the communication network, and wherein the step of distributing the data file includes distributing the data file for the document to the at least one of the document distribution providers via the communication network.
7. The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of:  
converting the data file for the document to a predetermined file format.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of registering the document distribution services includes registering at least one of print services, electronic mail services, and publishing services.
9. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing a method of distributing a document of a user, the method comprising:  
registering document distribution services of a plurality of document distribution providers;

- receiving a distribution request for the document from the user;
- compiling a list of distribution options for the document based on the document distribution services of the document distribution providers; and
- presenting the list of distribution options for the document to the user.
10. A system for distributing a document of a user, the system comprising:
- a memory device configured to have document distribution services of a plurality of document distribution providers stored therein; and
- a processor adapted to compile a list of distribution options for the document based on the document distribution services of the document distribution providers.
11. The system of claim 10, further comprising:
- a user interface configured to present the list of distribution options for the document to the user.
12. The system of claim 10, wherein the memory device and the processor are included in a document distribution system controller, wherein the document distribution system controller is adapted to receive a distribution request for the document from the user and present the list of distribution options for the document to the user.
13. The system of claim 12, further comprising:
- a communication network configured to link the document distribution system controller and the user, wherein the document distribution system controller is adapted to receive the distribution request for the document from the user via the communication network and present the list of distribution options for the document to the user via the communication network.
14. The system of claim 12, wherein the document distribution system controller is adapted to receive a distribution selection for the document from the

10005680-1 3243260

user, the distribution selection including at least one distribution option from the list of distribution options for the document.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the document distribution system controller is adapted to receive a data file for the document from the user and distribute the data file for the document to at least one of the document distribution providers offering the at least one distribution option.

16. The system of claim 15, wherein the document distribution system controller is adapted to convert the data file to a predetermined file format.

17. The system of claim 15, further comprising:  
a communication network configured to link the document distribution system controller, the user, and the document distribution providers, wherein the document distribution system controller is adapted to receive the data file for the document from the user via the communication network and distribute the data file for the document to the at least one of the document distribution providers via the communication network.

18. The system of claim 10, wherein the document distribution services of the document distribution providers include at least one of print services, electronic mail services, and publishing services.

19. A method of managing document distribution services, the method comprising the steps of:  
registering the document distribution services;  
presenting the document distribution services to a user having a document; and  
receiving a distribution selection for the document from the user, the distribution selection specifying at least one document distribution service of the document distribution services.

403420 59428750

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the step of registering the document distribution services includes registering at least one of print services, electronic mail services, and publishing services.

21. The method of claim 19, wherein the step of presenting the document distribution services includes compiling a list of distribution options for the document based on the document distribution services and presenting the list of distribution options for the document to the user.

22. The method of claim 19, wherein the step of registering the document distribution services includes registering the document distribution services of a plurality of document distribution providers with a document distribution system controller, and wherein the step of receiving the distribution selection includes receiving the distribution selection for the document from the user at the document distribution system controller.

23. The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of:  
linking the document distribution providers and the document distribution system controller via a communication network, wherein the step of registering the document distribution services includes registering the document distribution services with the document distribution system controller via the communication network.

24. The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of:  
managing the document distribution services at the document distribution system controller, including receiving a management instruction for the document distribution services at the document distribution system controller.

25. The method of claim 24, further comprising the step of:

linking a system administrator and the document distribution system controller via a communication network, wherein receiving the management instruction includes receiving the management instruction for the document distribution services at the document distribution system controller from the system administrator via the communication network.

26. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing a method of managing document distribution services, the method comprising:

registering the document distribution services;  
style="padding-left: 40px; margin-top: 1em; margin-bottom: 1em;">presenting the document distribution services to a user having a document; and  
style="padding-left: 40px;">receiving a distribution selection for the document from the user, the distribution selection specifying at least one document distribution service of the document distribution services.

27. A system for managing document distribution services, the system comprising:

a document distribution system controller configured to have the document distribution services registered therewith,  
style="padding-left: 40px;">wherein the document distribution system controller is adapted to present the document distribution services to a user having a document and receive a distribution selection for the document from the user, the distribution selection specifying at least one document distribution service of the document distribution services.

28. The system of claim 27, wherein the document distribution services include at least one of print services, electronic mail services, and publishing services.

29. The system of claim 27, wherein the document distribution system controller is adapted to receive a management instruction for the document distribution services from a system administrator.
30. The system of claim 29, further comprising:  
a communication network configured to link the document distribution system controller and the system administrator, wherein the document distribution system controller is adapted to receive the management instruction from the system administrator via the communication network.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176